GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3248
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2000
TRAINING TO INDIAN PILOTS OF FIGHTER PLANES BY POLAND
PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had signed an agreement with the Government of Poland in 1996 to train the pilots of Indian Air Force;

(b) if so, the rate of casualties recorded from 1980 to 1996 every year and its comparative figures from 1996 to 1999, year-wise;

(c) whether any complaints have been lodged by Air Force in the training schedule for which several precious lives of young pilots have been destroyed; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the follow-up action taken thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) A statement regarding the details of training related casualties year-wise from 1980 to 1999 is attached.

(c) No, Sir. The Indian Air Force has, however, projected the requirement for an Advanced Jet Trainer.

(d) All available options for induction of Advanced Jet Trainers into the Air Force are being evaluated. The Indian Air Force have carried out technical appraisal of the various AJTs available and have found Hawk of United Kingdom and Alpha Jet of France the most suitable options to meet the requirements of the Indian Air Force. Discussions have been held with the vendors in January-February, 2000. The source of AJT has not so far been finalised.